



January 30, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Committee on Rules & Administration
United States Senate
260 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Committee on Rules & Administration
United States Senate
425 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators McConnell, Schumer, Blunt, and Klobuchar,

As you know, the Federal Election Commission (FEC) has been without a quorum for **151 days**. This means there is no cop on the beat to enforce political campaign laws during a major election year. As we expect numerous security, administrative and resource challenges, this needs to be urgently addressed. Furthermore, the three Commissioners who are currently serving are all in hold-over status, serving until replacements are nominated to fill their long-expired terms. On January 6, 2020, a group of private attorneys wrote you and President Trump urging the nomination and confirmation of a full slate of six new Commissioners.

As former members of Congress, Governors, and Cabinet officials dedicated to fixing our broken political system, we agree that restoring the FEC's quorum is vital to the public's faith in the electoral viability of our great democratic republic. Especially in this election year, the American people deserve an FEC that is fully functioning and faithfully enforcing current laws.

At the same time, we urge you not to confirm nominees who would use their position to elevate their own policy preferences over existing law by refusing to enforce constitutional statutes duly passed by Congress.

Our 240-year old democratic republic, anchored by three coequal branches of government, is seriously undermined and threatened when we fail to enforce laws. While there may be genuine policy disagreements about campaign law, it is Congress's authority and responsibility to examine those issues through the legislative process, not that of the FEC Commissioners. Confirming new commissioners who are opposed to enforcing the law would only extend the current dysfunction and dismantle the power of Congress.



Fortunately, the Founders wisely gave the Senate the duty of confirmation so it could ensure that individuals nominated for executive branch positions would faithfully execute the laws of our nation. We strongly encourage you to utilize your prerogative and refuse to confirm any FEC nominee who will not enforce campaign laws according to the Constitution, as Congress intended.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

All the best,

Fmr. Ambassador/Representative Tim Roemer (D-IN)

ReFormers Caucus Co-chair

Fmr. Representative Zach Wamp (R-TN)

ReFormers Caucus Co-chair

Fmr. Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI)

Fmr. CIA Director/Representative Porter Goss (R-FL)

Fmr. Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)

Fmr. Representative Jim Gerlach (R-PA)

Fmr. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA)

Fmr. Representative Claudine Schneider (R-RI)

Fmr. Representative Sue Myrick (R-NC)